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NOTE ON PROFESSOR MÜNSTERBERG'S 'PERCEPTION OF DISTANCE'

PROFESSOR MÜNSTERBERG'S article in the last number of the JOURNAL, discussing the perception of distance with the verant, contains the statement: "The large public, suffering from the defects of its virtues, deprived, that is, of the privilege of a natural magnifying glass on account of normal eyesight, will of course gladly make use of this system of lenses. . . . If not every myopic person, then at least every myopic psychologist must have enjoyed these experiences before." In this connection, it seems well to note that the myopic eye probably has no advantage over the normal eye in this particular, provided the observer looks through a magnifying glass of short focal length. I have obtained the plastic effects very beautifully with lenses of 12 and 16 diopters. The same result may be obtained, of course, by looking at a photograph through a camera. The picture on the glass plate has all the plastic beauty that the stereoscope would show. In order not to confuse imagined perspective with this mechanically produced perspective, it is well to look at the picture upside down, or to use pictures which appear quite flat to the unaided eye.

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made possible. In this earlier paper appeared such statements as these: 'Infinity [treated as a quantity or a quasi-quantity] is only an indirection for [some] constant relation,' the constant relation, or differentiation, of bisection, for example, in the series: 1, $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{8}$ ... etc. "The infinitely small or great taken quantitatively [or massively] is only symbolic of a uniform process, of an activity under a fixed law, of a principle immanent in every term of the series and giving to the series as a whole a unity that quite transcends the limitations of merely quantitative [or massive] division." "Infinity [as mass] stands as an indirect but not less effective way of asserting the constructive principle of a series and so also of symbolically presenting in a quasi-static form the dynamic character that the series contains or even more generally the quality of any number-group." And again: "The real last term [of an infinite series] is not indeed one more among all the other terms and coordinate with them; rather it is the finally abstracted principle, say the sheer parallelism [in the case of the lines that meet at infinity] or the bare fact of bisection—without anything left to bisect [in the series 1, $\frac{1}{2}$, ... etc.] that sets or establishes the series." The ultimate, like the primary, can be only a mere abstraction for the eternal and omnipresent, for something immanent in the finite members of the series, or in the process or operation by which the series is constructed and by which, among other things, as the series develops each new term is so differentiated as to get a one-to-one correspondence with the term that has preceded it as well as with the whole out of which the series has sprung.